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**Alger et al.**(54) **CLIENT PORTAL**(52) **U.S. Cl. .... 705/27**(76) **Inventors: Jeffrey H. Alger, Redmond, WA (US);**  
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**WA (US)**(57) **ABSTRACT****Correspondence Address:****Pamela I. Banner****Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.****1001 G Street, N.W., 11th Floor****Washington, DC 20001-4597 (US)**





A client portal that is optimized to fulfill a specific function. The portal can include a browser that is dedicated to performing a particular task, such as reviewing and purchasing electronic books. For example, to better perform the specific function, the browser may only be able to directly access sites designated by an authorized party, e.g., the browser's publisher. Because the browser is dedicated to performing a single task, the user interface for operating the dedicated browser may be simplified to include only those controls useful for performing the assigned task. Also, the content available for access by the client portal can be controlled by a single authorized party, such as the portal's publisher or distributor.

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